

**Listing of the Claims:**

The following is a complete listing of all the claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

1        1-8. Canceled

1        9 (Previously Presented). A distributed method for processing descending  
2        auction traffic using one or more servers at a plurality of nodes in a  
3        distributed processing system comprising the steps of:

4              using a current local winner determination method at each of the  
5        nodes to identify loser bids and candidate winning bids, wherein the  
6        current local winner determination method comprises the steps of:

7              (a) receiving a bid ( $q$ ) for processing, where  $q$  is the quantity  
8              desired at going price  $p$ ;

9              (b) determinating whether the bid is in the first  $\lfloor R/q \rfloor$  bids, asking  
10              for quantity  $q$  at price  $p$ , where  $\lfloor x \rfloor$  stands for the greatest  
11              integer less than or equal to  $x$  and  $R$  is a currently remaining  
12              quantity on auction;

13              (c) if the bid is in the first  $\lfloor R/q \rfloor$  bids, asking for quantity  $q$  at the  
14              going price  $p$ , then declaring the bid a candidate winner bid;  
15              and

16              (d) making the candidate winner bid available for further  
17              processing by the current global winner determination  
18              method; and

19              using a current global winner determination method to determine  
20              from the candidate winning bids from each of the nodes a current set of  
21              winners.

1        10 (Original). The method of claim 9, further comprising the steps of:  
2              giving bids processed by the method a time stamp of arrival; and  
3              determining whether the time stamp, if it exists on the bid, is  
4              greater than or equal to the time stamp of any bid, asking for quantity  $q$  at

5 going price  $p$ , that has been processed by the method in the past.

1 11 (Currently amended). The method of claim 9 ‡, wherein bidders submit  
2 multi-item bids and the bids may be indivisible.